

**BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD**

IN THE MATTER OF BOISE RIVER STORAGE  
FEASIBILITY STUDY

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE U.S.  
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO PRIORITIZE  
ANALYSIS OF THE FEASIBILITY OF A RAISE OF  
ANDERSON RANCH DAM

1           WHEREAS, on October 24, 2017, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) passed a resolution  
2 authorizing its chairman to execute the necessary agreements with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
3 (Reclamation) and to contribute the necessary fifty percent (50%) non-federal cost-share to carry out the  
4 Boise River Storage Feasibility Study (study); and  
5

6           WHEREAS, in March 2018, the IWRB and Reclamation executed a Memorandum of Agreement to  
7 formalize the general scope of the study to include the evaluation of raises to the existing dams on the  
8 Boise River (Anderson Ranch, Arrowrock and Lucky Peak Dams) in order to provide additional water  
9 storage capacity; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, Reclamation initiated the feasibility study under the authority of the Omnibus Public  
12 Land Management Act of 2009, P.L. 111-11, which authorized the study of projects to address water  
13 shortages in the Boise River system and sunsets in March 2019; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act, P.L. 114-322)  
16 provides a second authority for the study, and potentially design and construction. The act states that  
17 continuing authority only applies to projects determined to be feasible before January 1, 2021 and that  
18 projects can only receive Federal funds under the WIIN Act if recommended by the Secretary of the  
19 Interior and designated by name in Federal appropriations legislation; and  
20

21           WHEREAS, Reclamation received \$750,000 of WIIN Act funding in 2018 for the study and is  
22 continuing to pursue additional funding under the WIIN Act and through standard budget processes; and  
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24           WHEREAS, based on initial technical review of available information and completion of site visits  
25 of the three dams, Reclamation has concluded that an increase in reservoir storage at Arrowrock and  
26 Lucky Peak Dams is likely to be significantly more difficult than a raise of Anderson Ranch Dam due to the  
27 physical and procedural complexities associated with the facilities; and  
28

29           WHEREAS, Reclamation concluded that evaluation of the feasibility of raises to all three dams will  
30 not be complete before January 1, 2021 and recommends focusing study efforts at this time on a raise of  
31 Anderson Ranch Dam; and  
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33           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes Reclamation to focus current study  
34 analyses on a raise of the Anderson Ranch Dam with the intent to determine project feasibility before  
35 January 1, 2021 in accordance with conditions of the WIIN Act, and acknowledges that the feasibility of  
36 small raises at Arrowrock and Lucky Peak Dams has not been determined but shall continue to be  
37 evaluated further in feasibility analyses as agreed upon by the IWRB. Reclamation is also authorized to  
38 complete land, structure, infrastructure and real estate impact assessments for all three reservoirs to provide

39 information for current and future feasibility analyses. Reclamation and IWRB shall consult upon the costs of  
40 the modified study scope.

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42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB will continue to pursue an extension to the  
43 Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, P.L. 111-11 and other authorities and encourages  
44 Reclamation to pursue authorization and funding under the WIIN Act and other authorities to achieve the  
45 greatest support for development of multi-purpose water projects in the Treasure Valley, including  
46 potential raises or increases in reservoir capacity of Anderson Ranch, Arrowrock and Lucky Peak Dams.  
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DATED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman  
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST

  
VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary